



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH

330

CRM-M-55377-2025 (O&M)

LALU

...PETITIONER

V/s

STATE OF PUNJAB

...RESPONDENT

Date of decision: 21.01.2026

Date of uploading:21.01.2026

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUMEET GOEL

Present: Mr. Vipin Mahajan, Senior Advocate with
Ms. Tejinder Kaur, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Gaurav Gurcharan S. Rai, Sr. DAG, Punjab.

SUMEET GOEL, J.

1. Present petition has been filed under Section 482 of BNS for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in case bearing FIR No.18 dated 15.04.2025 registered for offences punishable under Sections 21, 29 of the NDPS Act, 1985 and Section 111 of the BNS 2023 at Police Station Narot Jaimal Singh, District Pathankot.

2. On 20.11.2025, the following order was passed:-

“Apprehending his arrest in FIR No.18 dated 15.04.2025 registered for offences punishable under Sections 21, 29 of the NDPS Act, 1985 and Section 111 of the BNS 2023 at Police Station Narot Jaimal Singh, District Pathankot; the petitioner has preferred this petition under Section 482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 seeking pre-arrest bail.

Reiterating his submissions made on 30.09.2025, learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner has urged that the petitioner is sought to be implicated into the FIR in question solely on the basis of a disclosure statement made by co-accused from whom the contraband in question has been allegedly recovered & the petitioner is willing to join investigation and cooperate therein. In order to buttress his arguments, learned counsel for the petitioner has relied upon the dicta of the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in 'Vijay Singh versus The



State of Haryana' bearing Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s).1266/2023, 'State by (NCB) Bengaluru vs. Pallulabid Ahmad Arimutta & Anr' 2022(1) RCR (Criminal) 762, 'Tofan Singh vs. State of Tamil Nadu, AIR 2020 Supreme Court 5592, 'Smt. Najmunisha, Abdul Hamid Chandmiya @ Ladoo Bapu vs. State of Gujrat, Narcotics Control Bureau' 2024 INSC 29 and 'Jugraj Singh Vs. State of Punjab' bearing Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.)No.9190/2025. Adjourned to 18.12.2025

State is at liberty to file reply, if so required.

The petitioner is directed to appear before the Investigating Officer on 28.11.2025 at 11:00 A.M. in concerned Police Station and join investigation. In the event of arrest, the petitioner shall be released on interim bail subject to his furnishing personal/surety bond(s) to the satisfaction of the Arresting Officer/Investigating Officer. As and when further called by Investigating Officer, the petitioner shall join the investigation. He shall abide by the condition(s) enumerated under Section 482(2) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023."

3. On 22.12.2025, the following order was passed:-

"Notice of the application CRM-50694-2025

On the strength of advance service of copy of application; Mr. Adhiraj Singh Thind, AAG Punjab causes appearance and accepts notice on behalf of the respondent-State of Punjab.

For the reasons stated in the application and in view of submissions made by learned counsel for the rival parties, the application in hand is allowed. The petitioner is afforded another opportunity to join investigation. He shall now appear before the concerned Investigating Officer in the concerned Police Station at 11:00 A.M. on 30.12.2025, in terms of interim order dated 20.11.2025, and join investigation and cooperate therein.

Main petition be put up on 21.01.2026.

Interim order to enure."

4. Learned State counsel (on instructions) has submitted that the petitioner has joined investigation and he is not required for further custodial interrogation.

5. In view of the stance of the State, especially the factum of the petitioner having joined investigation and he being arrayed as an accused on the basis of disclosure statement, this Court is inclined to confirm the orders dated 20.11.2025 and 22.12.2025 in light of the dicta of the judgment passed by this Court in **CRM-M-54032-2024 'Ashu Vs. State of Punjab'** and recent judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court passed in **'Jugraj Singh Vs. State of Punjab'** bearing **Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.9190/2025**.

6. Accordingly, the petition is allowed and the orders dated 20.11.2025 and 22.12.2025 granting anticipatory bail to the petitioner is hereby made absolute, subject to the conditions as enumerated under Section 482(2) of BNSS.
7. This order should not be treated as “blanket” order. It will not be read granting petitioner indefinite protection from arrest. It shall be confined to the FIR mentioned *ibid* and will not operate in respect of any other incident that involves commission of an offence.
8. Liberty is reserved in favour of State/complainant to move for cancellation/recall of this order in case the petitioner violates any condition stipulated under Section 482(2) of BNSS or upon showing any other sufficient cause.
9. Needless to say that anything observed herein above shall not be construed to be an opinion on the merits of the case.
10. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SUMEET GOEL)
JUDGE

21.01.2026
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Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable:	Yes/No